United Nations S/2013/572

Security Council

Distr.: General
25 September 2013

Original: English

Letter dated 25 September 2013 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), I have the honour to transmit the attached letter, dated 23 September 2013, from the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, conveying the quarterly report on the international security presence in Kosovo, covering the period from 1 April to 30 June 2013 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

13-48601 (E) 260913

Please recycle

Annex

In accordance with paragraph 20 of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), I attach a report on the operations of the Kosovo Force covering the period from 1 April to 30 June 2013 (see enclosure).

I would appreciate you making this report available to the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Anders Fogh **Rasmussen**

Enclosure

Report to the United Nations on the operations of the Kosovo Force

Introduction

1. The present report on the Kosovo Force (KFOR) is provided in accordance with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and covers the period from 1 April to 30 June 2013.

2. As at 30 June 2013, the total number of KFOR troops in theatre was approximately 5,000.

Security situation and operations

3. During the reporting period, the overall security situation in theatre remained calm, but still volatile in the northern part of Kosovo. KFOR contributed towards maintaining a safe and secure environment and ensuring freedom of movement in Kosovo. The implementation of the European Union-facilitated agreement on the normalization of relations between Belgrade and Priština of 19 April 2013 resulted in a series of peaceful demonstrations, none of which constituted a threat to either the safety and security of the environment or to freedom of movement in Kosovo. KFOR continues to effectively use situational awareness in order to be ready to rapidly deploy manoeuvre forces to defuse and manage potential crisis situations.

4. Movements of the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX) towards the crossing points at Gate 1 and DOG 31 were generally successful. On 20 June, EULEX successfully resumed land-based transport of Kosovo Police and customs officials to Gate 1. Throughout the reporting period, Kosovo Police and customs officials were transported to DOG 31 by helicopter. On average, there were a total of five daily EULEX convoys to Gate 1 and DOG 31.

5. A number of small explosions occurred during the reporting period in Kosovo. These explosions were, however, generally assessed to be isolated incidents, resulting from a mixture of criminal and personal motivations of people of various ethnicities.

6. No major incidents were reported in Kosovo during the celebration of Saint Vitus Day on 28 June.

7. During the reporting period, the transfer of responsibility for the security of the Peć Patriarchate in Peja/Peć from KFOR to the Kosovo Police continued. The Peć Patriarchate in Peja/Peć is the eighth designated special status property of the original nine properties to undergo this unfixing process.

Summary

8. During the reporting period, KFOR, in coordination with EULEX and the Kosovo Police, continued to contribute towards maintaining a safe and secure environment and to ensuring freedom of movement in Kosovo. While no major incident was reported, the situation in the northern part of Kosovo remained tense as the European Union-facilitated agreement on the normalization of relations between Belgrade and Priština of 19 April 2013 was being implemented. KFOR continues to monitor the security situation on the ground closely and maintains its deterrent posture to react quickly and decisively, as required.